

# FACT SHEET



## Farmers' Mutual Cooperative Company Superfund Site Hospers, Iowa

September 2001

### INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to take the Farmers' Mutual Cooperative Company (FMCC) Superfund site off the National Priorities List. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) concurs with this action. EPA is asking the public for comments on the deletion.

The site was placed on the National Priorities List in August 1990. The National Priorities List, or NPL, is a list of hazardous waste sites in the country.

### BACKGROUND

The FMCC site is in Sioux County, Iowa, in the northwest corner of Hospers, Iowa. As an agricultural supply and service business, FMCC handled bulk fertilizer and pesticides until 1992.

Herbicides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were the contaminants of concern. These contaminants were found in the ground water near the FMCC site, in 1984. As a result of the contamination, three city wells were temporarily affected.

The VOCs in ground water were the result of past grain fumigation practices using carbon tetrachloride. The herbicide contamination was the result of incidental releases during normal operations throughout the site.

### **Public Comment Period**

EPA is requesting comments from the public on the site deletion. Comments will be taken through October 11, 2001.

Please send your comments to:

Catherine Barrett, U.S. EPA  
Superfund Division  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

### SITE ACTIVITIES

The FMCC, in cooperation with EPA and IDNR, conducted a series of site investigations. The purpose of the investigations was to identify potential contaminant sources and determine the extent of ground water contamination.

Information from these investigations were evaluated by EPA and IDNR. In 1992, EPA and IDNR proposed a way to address the contamination.

After receiving input from the community, EPA and IDNR decided on a remedy of natural attenuation and ground water and surface water

monitoring with a drinking water contingency.

The IDNR and the Farmers' Cooperative Elevator Association, the responsible party for the site, entered into a Consent Order. The purpose of the Consent Order was to track the extent of contamination at the site, and to determine how effective natural attenuation was in reducing the contaminant levels in the ground water.

The responsible party monitored the ground water for the contaminants of concern. The monitoring revealed the contaminant levels did not exceed the drinking water standards, proving that the natural attenuation remedy has been effective. The site is considered to be cleaned up since all of the conditions of the Order have been met.

### **DELETION ACTION**

EPA and IDNR have determined that all appropriate actions under Superfund have been completed. A five year review of the remedy at the site was conducted on September 7, 2000. The remedy continues to protect human health and the environment. No hazardous substances are on the site.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information about the site and the deletion is available for public review at the following locations:

Hospers City Hall  
Hospers, Iowa

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Wallace State Office Building  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa

EPA Region 7  
Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions about the site or the deletion, please contact:

Hattie Thomas  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
EPA Region 7  
Office of External Programs  
901 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101  
1-913-551-7003  
Toll-free 1-800-223-0425  
Fax: 1-913-551-7066  
E-mail: [thomas.hattie@epa.gov](mailto:thomas.hattie@epa.gov)